Public Laws: 103rd Congress / 1st Session / Senate Bills / 1993 / File 2

103D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 933

To amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to allow States to provide coverage under medicaid for the costs of prescription drugs for qualified medicare beneficiaries, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 11 (legislative day, APRIL 19), 1993

Mr. CHAFEE introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

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A BILL

To amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to allow States to provide coverage under medicaid for the costs of prescription drugs for qualified medicare beneficiaries, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Prescription Drug Purchasing Assistance for Older Americans Act".

SEC. 2. OPTIONAL STATE MEDICAID COVERAGE OF COSTS OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS FOR QUALIFIED MEDICARE BENEFICIARIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1905(p) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396d(p)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(5)(A) Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, in a State which provides medical assistance for prescribed drugs under section 1905(a)(12), the State may provide to—

"(i) a qualified medicare beneficiary, or

"(ii) an individual who would be such a beneficiary but for the fact such an individual's income exceeds the income level established by the State under paragraph (2) or section 1902(a)(10)(E), but is less than 200 percent of the official poverty line described in paragraph (2),

benefits for prescribed drugs in the same amount, duration, and scope as the benefits made available under the State plan for individuals described in section 1902(a)(10)(A)(i).

"(B) A State electing to provide benefits for prescription drugs to an individual described in subparagraph (A)(ii) may charge a premium or co-payment to such individual for such benefits but such premium or co-payment

may not exceed 5 percent of such individual's gross income.".

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall become effective with respect to payments for calendar quarters beginning on or after January 1, 1994, without regard to whether or not final regulations to carry out such amendment have been promulgated by such date.

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